

## Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-25

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO USMISSION NATO IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 267214

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NATO

SUBJECT: ARRANGEMENTS FOR NAC MINISTERIAL

REFS: A) NATO 6013, B) NATO 5988; C) NATO 5260;  
D) STATE 264461

DEPARTMENT'S PREFERENCES REGARDING PROCEDURAL ARRANGEMENTS  
FOR DECEMBER NAC MINISTERIAL FOLLOW. YOU SHOULD TAKE  
ACTION AS APPROPRIATE:

1. FORMAT FOR NAC MINISTERIAL: WE CONCUR IN FORMAT FOR  
NAC MINISTERIAL AS OUTLINED IN PO/75/126 (REF A).  
PRINCIPAL ITEM FOR DISCUSSION IN RESTRICTED SESSION DIS-  
CUSSED IN REF D. FYI: WE EXPECT RESTRICTED SESSION TO  
LAST WELL INTO AFTERNOON OF DECEMBER 11, BUT DO NOT REPEAT  
NOT BELIEVE IT IS NECESSARY TO SPECIFY THIS IN FORMAL  
AGENDA. END FYI.

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2. ATTENDANCE AT RESTRICTED SESSION: WE CONCUR WITH

CHARGE'S STATEMENT (REF B) THAT ATTENDANCE SHOULD, AS IN THE PAST, BE LIMITED TO FOREIGN MINISTER PLUS FOUR. YOU SHOULD SEEK AGREEMENT ON THIS FORMULA.

3. ADDITIONAL SUBJECTS FOR RESTRICTED SESSION: IN

ADDITION TO DISCUSSION OF EAST-WEST RELATIONS AT HELSINKI (REF D), YOU SHOULD TELL LUNS AND KEY REPS OF OUR VIEW THAT SOME ATTENTION SHOULD BE PAID BY FOREIGN MINISTERS TO BROADER STRATEGIC ISSUES WHICH BEAR UPON THE POSTURE OF THE ALLIANCE. WE HAVE IN MIND A GENERAL ASSESSMENT OF THE POLITICAL-MILITARY BALANCE WHICH WOULD LOGICALLY FOLLOW ANY DISCUSSION OF EAST-WEST RELATIONS AND COULD TAKE INTO ACCOUNT CURRENT STATUS OF MBFR, SALT AND RELATED ISSUES. YOU SHOULD TELL LUNS THAT THE SECRETARY WILL BE PREPARED TO SPEAK TO THESE BROADER STRATEGIC QUESTIONS. IN ADDITION, YOU SHOULD INDICATE TO LUNS THAT WE ALSO BELIEVE SPAIN IS A LIKELY TOPIC FOR DISCUSSION, DEPENDING ON DEVELOPMENTS BETWEEN NOW AND THE MINISTERIAL, AND THAT THE SECRETARY WILL BE PREPARED TO DISCUSS THE MIDDLE EAST SITUATION AND CHINA DURING THE RESTRICTED SESSION.

4. PROCEDURE FOR DISCUSSION OF STANDARDIZATION: WITH REGARD TO HANDLING OF DISCUSSION OF STANDARDIZATION (REF C), WE PREFER THAT A BRIEF NAC MEETING BE CONVENED AFTER THE MINISTERIAL MEETING OF THE DPC ON DECEMBER 10, TO BE ATTENDED BY DEFENSE MINISTERS JOINED BY FRENCH AND GREEK REPRESENTATIVES. YOU SHOULD SEEK ALLIED ACCEPTANCE OF THIS FORMAT.

5. BILATERAL WITH LUNS: YOU SHOULD SEEK A BRIEF BILATERAL MEETING FOR THE SECRETARY WITH LUNS IMMEDIATELY PRIOR TO THE OPENING OF THE NAC ON THE MORNING OF DECEMBER 11. PLEASE PROPOSE TENTATIVE TIME FOR DEPARTMENT'S APPROVAL.

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